April 19, 2005

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Vermelle J. Johnson, Chair, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

From: Dr. Gail M. Morrison, Director of Academic Affairs and Licensing

Consideration of Amendment of License
Webster University, St. Louis, MO;
at Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, and Myrtle Beach
to Add Bachelor's Degree Completion Programs Leading to the
B.A. in (1) Management and (2) Psychology and to the
B.S. in (1) Accounting, (2) Business Administration, and (3) Computer Science

Summary

Webster University <http://www.webster.edu> requests amendment of its license to offer degree completion programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in (1) Management and (2) Psychology and to the Bachelor of Science degree in (1) Accounting, (2) Business Administration, and (3) Computer Science. The institution proposes to begin the undergraduate programs in Columbia in Fall 2005; then, after having gained experience in Columbia, it plans to phase in the programs at its locations in Charleston, Greenville, and Myrtle Beach.

The Commission has licensed Webster University to operate in Charleston since 1983, in Myrtle Beach and Greenville since 1992, and in Columbia since 1999. Webster currently offers at its South Carolina locations programs leading to the M.B.A. degree and to the M.A. degree in business and management fields and in counseling.

The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools has accredited Webster University since 1925. The accreditation includes undergraduate and graduate levels at all locations where the University offers programs. Webster offers undergraduate and graduate programs in 15 states, the District of Columbia, Austria (Vienna), Bermuda (Hamilton), China (Shanghai), Thailand (Cha-am), the Netherlands (Leiden, Holland), Switzerland (Geneva), and the United Kingdom (London).

Students who enroll in Webster programs are usually working adults. The average age of students in graduate programs in South Carolina is 32. These non-traditional students are attracted to the accessible schedule, the working/teaching faculty, and the small classes. Webster will offer at its South Carolina locations only upper-division courses.

All applicants considered for admission to Webster University's undergraduate degree-completion program must have completed at least 64 semester credit hours of college-level work prior to beginning studies at Webster. The University requires all baccalaureate students to complete a general education program. Generally, students satisfy the general education requirement by taking one three-credit-hour course in each of the nine following areas: critical thinking, communications, historical consciousness, humanities, values, cultural understanding, arts appreciation, scientific understanding, and mathematics. Students who have completed at a regionally-accredited institution a program leading to an associate degree with the required general education content will have satisfied Webster University's general education requirement. Students transferring to Webster without completion of an associate of arts degree will have their previous college-level coursework evaluated on a course-by-course basis for equivalency with Webster's general education requirement. The University also allows credit for the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), U.S. military training, and in-service programs based on the recommendations of the American Council on Education (ACE).

Applicants must have each college or university they previously attended submit an official transcript directly to Webster. Applicants must include with their application a résumé that details professional employment history, school and/or community activities, honors, awards, and a 300 to 500 word essay on a topic of the applicant's choice. Applicants should have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better (on a 4.0 scale) on all previous academic work. Students who are on academic probation or suspension at another institution are generally ineligible for admission.

Courses are scheduled in five nine-week terms per year. Classes meet at night or on weekends so each course meets for a total of 36 contact hours.

The institution employs at least one full-time faculty for each major, curricular area, or concentration. Faculty members who teach for Webster in South Carolina typically hold a terminal degree from a regionally accredited university in the field in which they teach. They usually work in the profession in which they teach, bringing a blend of academic theories and real-life experiences to the classroom. Department chairpersons, the chief academic officer, and the South Carolina regional director are credentialed at the doctoral level. Each site director holds at least a master's degree and has the local responsibility for student services (recruiting, orientation, registration, certification for veteran's benefits, record-keeping, collection and recording of fees), instructional program (faculty recruiting, interaction and evaluation), and general administration (communication with the regional director and main campus, reporting, public relations, and marketing). Other local administrative staff members include a faculty coordinator, academic advisor, community relations coordinator, counseling coordinator, and a computer lab technician.

All Webster facilities are equipped with appropriately furnished administrative offices, classrooms with audio-visual equipment, computer laboratories with Internet connection, and a library containing professional journals, appropriate subject periodicals, and basic subject reference materials. Students have access to Webster University's PASSPORTS library on the Internet. Students can use their student identification to log on to access several research databases and request articles and books through the system. Some of the resources available online are:

Business & Finance Information

ABI/Inform Complete Full text; leading business and management publications.
Business & Company Resource Center Full text; company and industry profiles and investment reports. Also, articles on business and management topics.
Business & Industry Full-text; multi-industry database covering companies, markets and product information.
Business Source Premier Full text; comprehensive database on business and management topics.
EIU ViewsWire Full text; "Daily business intelligence on 195 countries."
Stat-USA Full text; US Dept of Commerce's database on US and international business statistics and documents.
Standard & Poor's Net Advantage Full text; online access to *Standard & Poor's Industry Surveys*.
Wall Street Journal Full-text of the leading economic news from 1986 to the present.
WISERTrade Full test; international trade statistics and company listings.

Company & Investment Information

D&B key business ratios Full text; selected ratios for hundreds of industries.
Investext Plus (InfoTrac) Full text; investment reports from major brokerage houses.
Lexis-Nexis Academic Full text; directory information, full SEC financials, and business news articles.
Mergent Online Full text; financial data on U.S. public companies and international companies.
Regional Business News Full text; U.S. business wires, etc.
Sorkins Online Full text; business, government, and non-profit directory for Chicago, St. Louis, and Kansas City.
Value Line Investment Survey Full text; large cap stocks and industries.
Value Line Investment Survey. Small & Mid-Cap Ed.
WorldscopeS(formerly Worldscope GLOBAL)Full text; directory and key financials for international companies.

General/Multi-disciplinary Information

Academic Search Premier (EbscoHost) Full text; periodical articles on timely topics.

Expanded Academic ASAP Plus (InfoTrac) Full text; articles on the humanities, general sciences, and social sciences.

InfoTrac OneFile Full text; "Mega" database with broad subject coverage and nearly 3,000 periodicals.

netLibrary Full-text of current books in numerous subject areas.

OCLC WorldCat Catalog of books and other materials owned by libraries worldwide.

PAIS International (public affairs) Literature concerned with public policy including international business, economics and trade.

Commission on Higher Education regulations require that programs leading to baccalaureate degrees include a minimum of 30 semester hours in general education. The curricula in the following tables reflect the content of each of the programs Webster University uses system-wide as published in the catalog of the institution. Each curriculum specifies basic general education requirements plus additional general education courses within the major. With the exception of the program leading to the B.S. degree in Computer Science with a concentration in Information Management, the combined general education courses meet the regulatory requirement. Webster will also require that students enrolled in South Carolina in the B.S. degree in Computer Science with a concentration in Information Management complete the mandated 30 semester hours in general education.

The following table shows the curricula for the programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Management.

B.A. Curricula (Semester hours)	B.A. in Management	B.A. in Management, Health Care Admin Concentration	B.A. in Management, HRM Concentration
Required general education semester credit hours	27	27	27
Electives	65	65	65
	92	92	92
Business Law I, II	6		3
Financial Accounting I, II	6	6	6
Health Care Organizations/Administration/ Budgeting and Finance/Law/Administration Overview		15	
Human Resource Management	3	3	3
International Management	3		
Labor-Management Relations		3	3
Macro and Microeconomics	6	3	6
Management Theory and Practices	3	3	3
Managerial Policies and Strategies	3		
Organizational Development	3		
Social and Economic Issues in Health Care		3	
Principles of Organizational Behavior	3		3
Personnel Law			3
Compensation Management			3
Contemporary Human Resource Strategies			3
Total Major Courses	36	36*	36*
Total Curriculum	128	128	128

*Transfer students must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of academic work with Webster University in the Department of Business and Management.

The following table shows the curriculum for the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology.

B.A. in Psychology Curriculum	Semester Hours
Required general education semester credit hours	27
Electives	59
	86
Introduction to Psychology	3
Introduction to Measurement and Statistics	3
Introduction to Research Methods	3
History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology	3
Senior Seminar	3
One course from four of the following six areas: Biological and Evolutional, Clinical and Counseling, Lifespan Development, Learning and Cognitive, Social and Cross-Cultural, Advanced Research Methods	12
Electives in Psychology	15
Total Major Courses	42*
Total Curriculum	128

*No more than six credit hours in practica, independent learning experiences, reading courses, and assessment of prior learning may be applied toward the 42 credit hours required for a major. Courses completed with a grade below a C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.

The following table shows the curricula for the programs leading to the Bachelor of Science degree.

B.S. Curricula (Semester hours)	B.S. in Accounting	B.S. in Business Administration	B.S. in Computer Science	B.S. in Computer Science, Info Management Concentration
Required general education	27	27	27	12
Electives	20	46	65	65
	47	73	92	77
Business Communications	3	3		
Business Ethics	3	3		
College Algebra	3	3		
Financial Accounting I, II	6	3		6
Introduction to Statistics	3	3		
Macro and Microeconomics	6	6		
Management Theory and Practices	3	3		3
Marketing	3	3		
Principles of Finance	3	3		
Advanced Financial Accounting I, II	6			
Auditing I, II	6			
Business Law I, II	6			
Cost Accounting I, II	6			
Federal Tax Accounting	6			
Financial Statement Analysis	3			
Human Resource Management	3			
Intermediate Accounting I, II, III	9			
Investments	3			
Business Spreadsheets		1		
Business Policy		3		
Introduction to Business		3		
Managerial Accounting		3		
Information Analysis		3		
Legal Environment of Business		3		
Operations Management		3		
Organizational Behavior		3		
Quantitative Methods		3		
Algorithms			3	3
Computer Programming I, II			6	6
Data Structures			3	3
Introduction to Information Processing			3	3
Mathematics for Computer Science I			3	3
Operating Systems			3	3
Systems Analysis and Design			3	3
COSC course electives			12	
Database Applications				3
Database Concepts				3
Information Systems I, II				6
Statistics, Macro/Micro Economics, Finance				6
Total Major Courses	81*	55	36	51
Total Curriculum	128	128	128	128

*Transfer students must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of academic work with Webster University in the Department of Business and Management.

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee commend favorably to the Commission amendment of the license for Webster University to offer programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in (1) Management and (2) Psychology and to the Bachelor of Science degree in (1) Accounting, (2) Business Administration, and (3) Computer Science, beginning in Columbia in Fall 2005, and phasing in the programs at its other locations in Charleston, Greenville, and Myrtle Beach.